

# RESOURCES FOR DISTRESSED AREAS IN MISSOURI

## MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Missouri Department of Economic Development ("DED"), other state agencies, and federal agencies has a broad array of resources to facilitate the expansion of small-medium sized businesses in areas of economic distress. There are also resources for communities to improve public infrastructure, and assist homeowners in rehabilitation of residences. Many of these resources may be used for the same project, depending on the eligibility.

### "DISTRESSED AREAS"

The term "distressed area" affects several state programs. The term is defined in state statute as

- ?? Cities that have a median household income less than 70% of the statewide median (metro or non-metro, as applicable). There are 214 cities in Missouri that meet this definition.
- ?? Areas that have contiguous census tracts that have at least 2,500 persons and less than 70% of the statewide median household income.
- ?? The entire listing of eligible areas can be found on <http://168.166.4.116/maps/framehbm.htm>

### LOAN PACKAGING & BUSINESS PLAN ASSISTANCE

- ?? Small Business Development Centers (17 in Missouri). To find the location nearest you:

[www.mo-sbdc.org](http://www.mo-sbdc.org)  
1-800-573-882-0344

- ?? Local CPAs and accounting firms (check your yellow pages).

### INFORMATION SOURCES

- ?? DED web site: [www.ecodev.state.mo.us](http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us)  
Toll-Free: 1-800-523-1434  
E-mail: [ecodev@mail.state.mo.us](mailto:ecodev@mail.state.mo.us)
- ?? Missouri Finance Network:  
[www.ecodev.state.mo.us/cd/finance](http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/cd/finance)

(Interactive database of financial resources of public agencies.)

- ?? Missouri Business Assistance Center  
[www.ecodev.state.mo.us/mbac/](http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/mbac/)  
1-888-751-2863  
(Business start-up packet; Starting a New Business in Missouri manual; Information on licenses, fees, permits, and regulations; Business plan information; Information on importing and exporting.)

### DED REGIONAL OFFICES

DED's regional offices can provide suggestions of possible state, federal or local financial assistance resources.

- ?? St. Louis (314) 340-6823
- ?? Kansas City (816) 889-2900
- ?? Trenton (660) 359-5960
- ?? Springfield (417) 888-4001
- ?? Moberly (660) 269-8802
- ?? Dexter (573) 624-9950
- ?? Houston (417) 967-5770
- ?? Jefferson City (573) 751-0482

### RELAY MISSOURI SERVICE

- ?? Voice user calling a hearing/speech impaired user: 800-735-2466.
- ?? Hearing/Speech impaired user calling a voice user: 800-735-2966

### ASSISTANCE TO EMPLOYERS

DED's Division of Workforce Development works in collaboration with its one-stop career system partners to offer workforce development assistance to job seekers and employers. By using the State's network of one-stop career centers, customers can access America's Job Bank, seek referral and placement assistance, career counseling and testing, labor market

information and use Missouri WORKS!, an Internet based, self-service workforce development tool. To find your nearest Division of Workforce Development location, consult your telephone directory under State Government or visit:  
[www.ecodev.state.mo.us/wfd](http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/wfd).

### **MISSOURI MARKETPLACE**

Information on thousands of Missouri-made products and services designed to encourage both in-state and out-of-state businesses and consumers to buy Missouri-made products. Registration is free and open to any Missouri-based company. To search the database or register your company, visit:  
[www.missourimarketplace.org](http://www.missourimarketplace.org)

### **INTERNATIONAL MARKETING**

DED's Office of International Marketing works to make companies aware of international opportunities and help them secure new business. For more information on the services available, please call (573) 751-4855 or 1-888-690-4855, by e-mail at [missouri@mail.state.mo.us](mailto:missouri@mail.state.mo.us) or visit:  
[www.ecodev.state.mo.us/intermark](http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/intermark)